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JERUSALEM'S OUTFITTERS FOR MEN AND WOMEN
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When talking about clothes Rosenblum's must be mentioned

Marginal Column

By GEORGE LEONOF

BRITISH policy in the Middle East, as elsewhere, is designed first and foremost to promote British interests, and Israel has seen the converse side of the coin clearly enough to appreciate that British interests as seen through Whitehall's eyes are not always in focus with the Israeli view of what is best for Britain. And so, British interests being what they are, there is nothing especially extraordinary about the Chief of the Imperial General Staff luring British-subsidized Jordan into the British-dominated Baghdad pact with an offer of increased financial help. On the other hand, recent Soviet economic activity also being what it is, there might have been nothing surprising about Britain's decision to contribute financially to the giant Aswan dam project of Egypt without, apparently, attaching any political conditions. What defies understanding, however, is that Britain should have considered it expedient to make the two offers at the same time.

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THE rather frustrating advantage Britain can hope for in heaving both ends of the rope in the Arab tug-of-war is that she is bound to emerge on the winning side at her own expense. On the one hand there was General Templer, apparently attempting to convince Jordan that its lone prospect of economic assistance from the West lies in accession to the Baghdad pact, ostensibly aimed at the Soviet Union. On the other hand Egypt, arch-enemy of the treaty who is spearheading a rival military alliance backed by arms from the Soviet bloc, is rewarded with British and much larger American contributions to an immense irrigation project for which Russia, incidentally, had earlier offered assistance: for Abdul Nasser, the privilege of strutting before a jubilant populace as the "liberator" who freed his country from dependence on the West yet retained its favour; for Mufti and Majali, at least temporary obscurity as the men who had sought to betray "national aspirations." It is hard to see how this policy is expected either to dampen Abdul Nasser's enthusiasm for the profitable game of playing off the East against the West, or lessen the fears of the future Jordan Government that the violence of future rioting may not be limited to attacks on foreign consulates.

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THE Conservative press in Britain has now added a critical voice to the Labour Party's consistent denunciation of the Government's muddling in the Middle East. The Daily Telegraph commented that Moscow stood to gain a large measure of Egypt's gratitude for the benefits the Aswan dam will produce although the Russians may not sacrifice in any way towards it, since "only now, under direct challenge from the East, have the U.S. and Britain come forward with a definite offer." The "Daily Express" declared it was ridiculous for Britain to give cash to Egypt to counter Communist influence, and only the "Financial Times" found consolation in the thought that "the Russian leaders must know that they have no chance of winning the competition with the Americans in the sheer quantity or quality of their foreign aid." A noisy backfire in Jordan, however, is to be blamed, as "The [illegible]" [illegible] faulty information contained in intelligence reports on the situation in Jordan.

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THE official explanation proffered to the Commons by Lord John Hope yesterday — that the riots were instigated by outside elements who misrepresented the views of the Jordan Government — is not encouraging. The disorders were prompted by reports that Jordan's accession to the Baghdad pact would divert her from carrying on the "struggle with Israel." If Britain is still anxious to bring Amman into the treaty — and this appears to be the intention — it seems that Whitehall must be ready to give assurances that membership in the pact would place no such limitation on the Arab Legion, which is to be strengthened as a result.

Jerusalem, December 22.

Knesset Debate On Foreign Policy Due January 2

Jerusalem Post Reporter

A special session of the Cabinet yesterday decided to ask the Knesset presidium to set January 2 as the date for a Government pronouncement on foreign policy and the subsequent debate.

The Foreign Minister, Mr. Moshe Sharett, reported to the Cabinet on his activities abroad and his meetings with Jewish community representatives and foreign statesmen. Mr. Sharett returned on Monday from a Bond Drive mission in the U.S. and Canada. He saw the Foreign Ministers of the U.S., France, Belgium and Holland.

Budget Discussion

The 1956/57 budget will be discussed for the first time at next week's Cabinet session, it was learned from Finance Ministry sources yesterday.

The new budget will total over IL780m. it is understood, and the increases will be financed by more thorough collection of income tax as well as certain higher direct taxes. Mr. L. Eshkol, the Minister of Finance, warned last month that the Ministry was studying methods of raising the income tax ceiling and was considering the imposition of capital taxes and capital profit taxes.

The current year's budget, including the supplementary autumn budget, totalled IL744m.

The Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee is to meet this morning in Tel Aviv with the participation of the Foreign Minister, Mr. Moshe Sharett.

Bernstein Favours Merger with Herut

TEL AVIV, Wednesday. — The President of the General Zionist Party has expressed his agreement in principle with the suggestion of Mr. Menahem Begin, leader of the Herut party, that the two parties merge.

Mr. Bernstein's reply to Mr. Begin briefly lists the differences separating the two organizations, but promises that the proposals will be given serious consideration by the General Zionists.

Mr. Bernstein writes: "I am also of the opinion that conditions have arisen which would make a merger between the Herut Movement and the General Zionist Federation appear as an objective to be positively considered. As you have already explained in your letter, however, there is a difference of approach separate the two parties, and one can certainly not dismiss differences in party conditions whose dividing influence is often bigger than that of differences in principle.

"The propagation of copies of your letter to the press is liable to give the impression that the object of the proposal is demagogic rather than practical, in a manner which is not likely to lessen the difficulties already outlined in your letter.

"However, with all these reservations, I intend bringing up your proposal for serious consideration in my party, and shall let you know the outcome of these deliberations."

"CHOCK FULL OF MATERIAL..."

... [illegible] of tomorrow's Jerusalem Post.

In dispatches from Paris, and New Delhi, The Jerusalem Post's own correspondents report on the hottest election campaign in the history of the Fourth Republic and the fruits reaped by Bulganin and Khrushchev on their Asian tour, while a special correspondent in Tunisia continues his survey of the crucial problems besetting the fledgling state.

Your weekend issue of The Jerusalem Post also covers the American end of the renewed arms race between the U.S. and Russia; the disquieting results of a sociological survey into the lack of German guilt feelings toward the Jews; a picture story of fishing on the Kinneret; a survey of education for our working youth; appreciations of the new Bialik and Tchernichovsky Prize winners and their work; reviews of new books on Islam; "Waiting for Godot"; and all the regular Friday features.

Burns Urges Kinneret 'Gentlemen's Accord'

UNITED NATIONS, Wednesday. — Major-General E.L.M. Burns, Chief of the U.N. Truce Supervision Organisation, has recommended that a gentleman's agreement on Lake Kinneret be negotiated providing for Israel police boats and Syrian use of the lake waters along the ten-metre strip of Israel territory, as well as an early "exchange of prisoners" (a step the Syrians have persistently refused).

In a report to the U.N. Security Council published here today, Gen. Burns said the Israel action on the northeastern shore of Lake Kinneret "was a deliberate violation of the provisions of the General Armistice Agreements, including those relating to the demilitarized zone, which was crossed by the Israel forces which entered Syria."

(The Security Council is scheduled to resume debate tomorrow of Syria's complaint against Israel for the raid.)

Not Sole Cause

The report said the Israel Foreign Ministry had given the Syrian shooting at Israel boats on Lake Kinneret as the reason for the retaliatory action on December 11. It added that this would "hardly appear to be its sole cause when viewed against the background of general relations between the parties. Relations between the parties were more seriously embittered by their failure to agree to an exchange of prisoners during the current years."

Gen. Burns said Syria had reported 56 killed in the raid, nine wounded and 32 missing. Israel's casualties were six killed and 10 wounded.

"Like the Kibya and Gaza incidents with which the Security Council has had to deal, the Tiberias incident has been explained by Israel as a retaliatory action on a large scale," Gen. Burns said in the report. However, there was the risk in such retaliatory action "that the attackers may not be able to limit the extent of the operation to that planned."

The report charged that there was "a striking disparity between the scale of the retaliation and the provocation which was cited by the Israel Government."

Other factors may have been operative in the decision to retaliate, such as those concerning the exchange of prisoners, "and these factors may not have been related strictly to issues outstanding between Israel and Syria."

The report said that Syria, after being informed by the Chairman of the Mixed Armistice Commission of the Israel plans for the present fishing season, which began about November 15, had not interfered with Israel's fishing boats. It suggested as an "alternative to the use of force, which should be strongly condemned, the implementation of the General Armistice Agreement, supplemented, if possible, by a gentleman's agreement, arrived at within the framework of the Armistice Agreement and in its spirit."

'Certain Distance'

The report said there might be a kind of gentleman's agreement concerning Israel police boats. The Israel right to send police boats to patrol anywhere in Lake Kinneret would in no way be impaired by a new agreement to keep them at a certain distance from the shore.

"Similarly, the Israel right to the 10-metre strip along the shore should not be affected by letting inhabitants of Syria water their cattle in, or draw water from the Lake. The Syrian authorities could also, without impairing their legal position in the matter, authorise individuals residing in Syria to apply for fishing permits issued by the Israel authorities," the report said, adding that an early exchange of prisoners, carried out in conformity wtih the Geneva Convention, would also help in relieving tension.

No Copy for Israel

Asked to comment on General Burns' report last night, the Foreign Ministry spokesman said that he was unable to comment because he had not seen the full report. Contrary to the arrangement with the U.N.T.S.O. Headquarters, no copy was made available to the Israel Government.

Events in Jordan Disappoint London

Jerusalem Post Correspondent

LONDON, Wednesday. — Official disappointment over the events in Jordan has now been permitted to percolate into a handful of newspapers which maintain adequate contacts in Whitehall. The diplomatic correspondent of "The Times" today, after summarising the recent happenings, strikes a delicate balance between the official belief that something can still be salvaged from the wreck and the unofficial fears that Amman may currently witness a repetition of the 1948 Anglo-Iraqi pact fiasco in Baghdad when howling mobs overthrew a Government committed to the British alliance.

After carefully noting that Premier Majali's statement "evidently failed to have much effect against the more violent and emotional appeals to anti-Israel feeling which were being circulated," thus indirectly blaming Israel for the whole debacle, the correspondent concludes, "It is always possible that a calmer and more reasoned view will prevail when the issues are put to the electorate, but it seems that the British Government which throughout has made no secret of its desire to expand the Baghdad pact, decided on imperfect intelligence that the Jordan Government would be able to carry through a policy in favour of the pact. There had, however, been little preparation. The Templer mission, for the present at least, has solved nothing." That is as close as "The Times" comes to blame officialdom for this humiliating debacle.

Still Hopeful

The diplomatic correspondent of the "Manchester Guardian" who volunteers the information that "General Templer was able to offer arms and aircraft" on the understanding that Jordan would join the Baghdad pact, also suggests that Whitehall is still moderately hopeful of eventual success. "It is believed that the great majority of those who are now demonstrating," he writes, "are doing so because they have been deliberately or otherwise misinformed as to the implications of such a step. In other words, it is believed agitation comes not only from the Communists and their sympathisers, but also from those Jordanians who feel accession to the Baghdad pact would divert the country's energies from the struggle with Israel."

Freed from diplomatic circumlocutions, this means that no such inhibitions were planned when Jordan was urged to join the Baghdad pact, but the Amman mob misunderstood the situation and actually believed Whitehall wanted Jordan to make peace with Israel.

Burns in Lebanon On Border Issue

Gen. E.L.M. Burns, Chief of Staff of the U.N. Truce Supervision Organization, yesterday left for Beirut where he conferred with Lebanese Government officials. He is expected to return today.

NEABS reported last night that he discussed the security situation along the Lebanese-Israel border with the Beirut officials.

The agency quoted the Lebanese Foreign Minister, Salim Lahoud, as stating yesterday that a bilateral Lebanese-Syrian military pact would definitely be concluded next month.

Egyptian Jets Over Nitzana Area

Two Egyptian jet planes flew over Israel territory in the Nitzana area twice yesterday morning, the Army spokesman announced last night.

On Tuesday afternoon, the spokesman added, two Egyptian jets flew over the same sector.

Five in Syria to Die For Espionage

A Syrian military court yesterday sentenced to death five Syrians charged with spying for Israel. Two others received death sentences which were commuted to life imprisonment due to extenuating circumstances, NEABS reported last night.

SYRIAN OFFICERS IN GAZA

A delegation of four Syrian officers, including members of the joint Syrian-Egyptian co-ordinated staff, arrived in Gaza yesterday to study the situation along the Israel-Egyptian Armistice Lines, ANA reports.

It Began With A Yellow Balloon

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Cairo, Saudia Offer Jordan Substiturte For British Aid

DAMASCUS, Wednesday (Reuter). — Egypt and Saudi Arabia have agreed to offer Jordan aid equal to the British grant-in-aid she now receives yearly, it was learned in semi-official circles here today. The purpose of such aid would be to enable Jordan to dispense with British financial help which is regarded in political circles here as a means of keeping her within the British sphere of influence.

It was understood that the Syrian Cabinet which held an urgent meeting today, approved the proposed aid, which may still be the subject of further talks on detail between the Premiers of Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Jordan.

(Jordan is a member of the sterling area, of which Britain is the banker. Britain last year gave Jordan financial aid totalling £2.5m. Annual Anglo-Jordan talks on aid have just concluded "satisfactorily," usually reliable sources in London said today. A joint statement will be released in London and Amman on December 31.)

(U.P. reported from Damascus, quoting semi-official sources, that Syria has offered to join in the Egyptian-Saudi Arabian offer to give Jordan the equivalent of the $22.4m. aid which keeps her under British influence.)

Britain Sees Riots Incited from Outside

LONDON, Wednesday (Reuter). — The Joint Foreign Under-Secretary, Lord John Hope, told the Commons today that he regretted there had been disturbances in Jordan cities in the last five days.

"These appear to have been incited by misrepresentation from outside the country of the views of the Jordan Government, especially in connection with the Baghdad pact," he said, adding that the British Government had never concealed from the Jordan Government its hope that Amman would accede to the Baghdad pact.

Lord John Hope had been asked by Mr. Alfred Robens (Labour) for information about the disturbances.

The Under-Secretary said the Jordan authorities had given an assurance they would take all possible steps to protect British and other foreign lives and property. Nevertheless, British lives had been threatened and British property damaged.

Mr. Robens then claimed that the situation showed the "bankruptcy" of Britain's Middle East policy.

Lord John Hope retorted: "Whenever any step is contemplated in the interests of peace and stability in the Middle East, there will of course be elements who will try to disrupt it. I should have thought that the House of Commons was the last place where such elements ought to be encouraged."

When Mr. Robens asked if Britain was "trying to thrust the pact down the throats of the Jordan people" Lord John Hope denied that the population of Jordan is "hostile to the Baghdad pact."

Britain Contracts to Sell Iraq Arms Valued at £2m.

New Jordan Cabinet Sworn In

King Hussein yesterday swore in the caretaker Government of Ibrahim Hashim which is to supervize the coming general elections. These are to be held within four months of Monday's dissolution of Parliament as a result of rioting against the Mulki Cabinet's intention to join the Baghdad pact.

The new Government, which includes three former Premiers, will be merely "administrative and temporary" in character, the new Prime Minister announced yesterday in a statement to the press.

The Cabinet members, who number nine with 13 portfolios, later met a public delegation which demanded the formation of a public committee to supervise the national interests, release of demonstrators detained in the past few days, and a pledge not to conclude alliances with the West.

Shortly afterwards, the Ministry of Interior ordered the release of all those detained in the disturbances.

The Cabinet comprises:

Ibrahim Hashim — Premier, (Palestinian, ex-Premier and President of the Senate); Samir Rifai — Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister (ex-Premier); Fawzi Mulki — Defence, Education, (ex-Premier); Omar Matar — Interior (ex-Military Governor of Old City); Falah Madadha — Justice (ex-Military Governor of Old City); Khalusal Kheiry—Finance, Economy (Palestinian); Anistas Hanania — Development (Palestinian); H.F. Khalidi— Health, Social Welfare (Palestinian).

The situation in Jordan was returning to normal yesterday and civil servants were back at work. Amman was still tense, and police used tear-gas to disperse a number of demonstrations. Shops remained closed in the capital, but were expected to reopen today. The Education Ministry ordered schools to be reopened, and the curfew in Bethlehem was lifted last night.

The Jordan Bar Association set up a committee of inquiry and urged the public and relatives of those killed and wounded to submit evidence against officials and army officers responsible for the bloodshed and attacks on demonstrators. Arab Legion reinforcements, brought to the city to quell rioters, were withdrawn yesterday.

The Jordan press, which struck for one day, yesterday reported that more than 12 persons were killed and 120 wounded in the last three days. In Bethlehem alone, six were killed and 56 wounded. Two students were killed in the Old City disturbances and 29 persons wounded. It was reported that the mob which wrecked the Iraqi-financed resettlement and agricultural project for refugees near Jericho, also stole 15,000 chickens and ducks.

The press carried virtually identical editorials, advising the new Cabinet to take cognizance of the events of the past few days which show that no Government could "ignore the will of the masses."

(ANA, NEABS, Reuter)

Nuri: Palestine Solution Within Six Months

Premier Nuri e-Said told the Iraqi Parliament yesterday that a solution to the "Palestine" problem would be found within the next six months, according to NEABS. He made the statement during a debate on the budget for next year.

He pledged that Iraq's stand toward Israel would remain the same as those of the other Arab League states.

Britain to Tighten Control on Surplus

By GEORGE LICHTHEIM
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

LONDON, Wednesday. — The Foreign Office has just suffered another nasty knock in the shape of an official Belgian statement pointedly blaming Britain for the continued shipment of reconditioned British Army surplus tanks from Belgian ports to Egypt.

A semi-official statement here today, following earlier unsuccessful attempts to saddle Belgium with blame declares that while the British authorities are "powerless" to halt this traffic once the tanks have left the country, such shipments are now more strictly controlled here, as witness the recent cancellation of a permit to export a considerable quantity of so-called scrap to Belgium.

Meanwhile, reports from Antwerp state that 15 more Valentine tanks were last night hurriedly loaded onto the Egyptian freighter "El Kahira" due to sail today direct to Alexandria. One report says that between 50 and 100 tanks, apparently reconditioned and awaiting shipment, are clearly visible on the open ground behind one of the nearby quays. There is great activity in a quayside workshop where finishing touches are being hurriedly applied as required by an Egyptian Commission.

All the tanks loaded yesterday are described as having new electrical equipment, although the guns were without breech blocks, these having been removed before the tanks were sold in Britain.

It is understood that the tanks never passed through the Belgian Customs. According to the Belgian Foreign Ministry, they were regarded as transit goods for which only a formal licence is required. Refusal of such licences would have been legally very difficult in the absence of a British request that the traffic be halted. No such request was made and the Belgians naturally resent the current British attempts to place the responsibility on Belgium.

Customs officials in Cardiff, Wales, yesterday stopped 100 tons of steel tracks for tanks being loaded aboard a vessel believed to be bound for the Middle East. The cargo is now under guard pending investigations.

Money to Come From 'Counterpart' Fund

LONDON, Wednesday (Reuter). — Iraq is to buy arms from Britain to the value of at least £2m. in the next two years under an agreement announced in London today. Under it, Britain waives payment by Iraq of £2,755,000 for military property handed over to Iraq under the current Anglo-Iraqi defence agreement.

Iraq will spend an equivalent sum in Britain on military equipment and the training of Iraqi forces. Not less than £2m. of this sum must be spent on arms in the next two years.

A British note to Iraq published here today as an official White Paper said that the £2,755,000 was made up of various property transferred from British ownership to Iraq including buildings at the former British bases Habbaniya and Shaiba and at Basra.

Iraq is to make available to Britain facilities for free storage at the port of Basra and free accommodation and services for British servicemen discharging functions at Basra under the Anglo-Iraqi defence agreement.

2) Iraq is also to extend existing free facilities for the British navy at the Shat el Arab port, and to provide free services, accommodation and handling of British military aircraft visiting Shaiba "from time to time" for the purpose of joint training.

Britain contracted to do her "best to facilitate the supply to the Government of Iraq of arms and other appropriate equipment of modern design."

Lord Reading, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, made a statement in the House of Lords on the agreement similar to that made by Lord John Hope in the Commons.

Lord Henderson, speaking for the Labour opposition, said this might be a very good thing in so far as it related to defence plans under the Baghdad alliance, "But I would draw attention to the fact that what is done under these bilateral treaties with Arab countries in the provision of substantial supplies of arms does in fact further unbalance the position as between the Arab countries and Israel in this field."

Lord Reading replied that this fact had been borne in mind in making these arrangements.

In the Commons, Mr. Alfred Robens (Labour), referring to the conflict between the Arab states and Israel asked whether the arms were to be used in such a conflict against Israel or whether the arrangements made were that these additional arms and military installations would be used for no other purpose than the defence of the Baghdad pact.

Lord John Hope replied that the arrangement was for the purpose of the Baghdad pact.

Asked further to make it absolutely clear that the arms would not be used for any other purpose than for defence of the pact, Lord Joh. Hope replied, "I should have thought that followed. This agreement does not impinge in any way or alter in any way our commitments under the Declaration" (on the peace and stability of the Middle East made in 1950 by Britain, France and the U.S.).

JORDAN LIMITS CHRISTMAS PROCESSION

The Jordanian authorities have notified Israel that only the Jerusalem Consular Corps will be able to participate in the traditional procession to Bethlehem on Christmas Eve, it was announced yesterday.

Diplomats and consuls living in cities other than Jerusalem will have to cross through Mandelbaum Gate which will be open to regular pilgrims.

The procession for the Jerusalem Consular Corps is to form at 10 p.m. on Saturday near the King David Hotel.

Pilgrims crossing into Jordan tomorrow to celebrate Christmas should carefully weigh the situation there, Ministry of Interior sources stated yesterday. Any decision on banning the pilgrimage would be taken only by Jordan, they added.

The Ministry and the police have taken all steps to make the crossing as "uncomplicated" and smooth as possible. Pilgrims will obtain their one dinar allowance at the District Office in the Generali building, thus eliminating any delay at Mandelbaum Gate itself. The pilgrims are to pass through twice as fast this year as before, since two processing points have been set up.

The Gate will be opened at 7 a.m. in Rehov Shivtei Yisrael (St. Paul's) for Israel pilgrims, and in Rehov Shmuel Hanavi for tourists. The Gate will also be open during Saturday night.

About 3,000 persons are expected to cross this year (1,650 Roman Catholics and Protestants whose Christmas falls on December 25, and the rest Greek Orthodox and Armenians whose Christmas falls on two separate dates in January), as compared to 4,211 last year. In 1951, 1,814 crossed on the three dates; in 1952, 2,481; and in 1953, 2,879.

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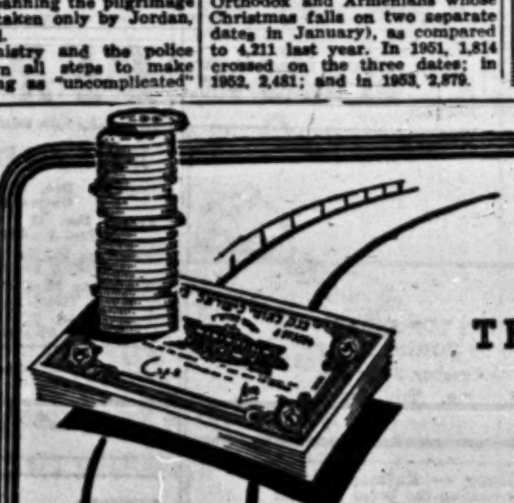
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PEACE WITHOUT BRIBES

IN the present delicate situation it was hardly to be supposed that Israel's honest attempt at a contribution towards the cause of peace should have been accepted with any great show of enthusiasm either in Cairo or in Washington. There has been no war to infuse a sense of urgency into Egypt, and with renewed talk of a Western-sponsored Aswan Dam the Middle East crisis is no longer so dire in the eyes of Mr. Dulles as to demand immediate action that might be construed by the Arab states as favourable to Israel. There has even been a suggestion out of Washington that Israel's proposals, which include such offers as direct land communications between Egypt and Jordan, a free zone in Haifa port for the latter, and an arrangement for compensation to refugees, are not "serious concessions" such as might make it possible for the United States to mediate.

There is a profound misapprehension here of Israel's intentions. Israel has not offered "concessions" in an attempt to buy off Egyptian hostility or pander to Nasser's need for prestige, for the Israel government does not consider that it is in the wrong in existing in its present boundaries and must atone by giving up a part of its territory. On the contrary, it considers that the Arab states, having first of all failed to accept the U.N. partition proposals, and having upset them by force of arms, and having next failed to destroy Israel in their concerted attacks, are now bound by the Armistice Agreements made and signed by all the parties concerned following the fighting of 1948. They have also failed to keep the Armistice Agreements, which Israel is now, after years of one-sided discipline, belatedly enforcing herself. There is no good reason in all this for bribes to States that have failed to keep their contractual obligations in the past. What Israel has endeavoured to map out in her peace proposals are good-will offers to the neighbouring states in order to ease such genuine problems as that of the refugees and the barrier between Egypt and the north, which the existence of Israel has brought into being, even if not through any fault of her own but rather as a consequence of Arab hostility. The borders themselves do not cut into the area of any Arab states and constitute at most a psychological problem that will not be cured by shifting them. The murderous flow of Czech armaments has now made war almost inevitable sooner or later unless genuine peace can be established first, whereas six months ago it was possible to contemplate many years of no-war and no-peace. Israel's desire for peace talks is most genuine; but they must be based on the realization that peace is best for all concerned and not on such territorial or other "concessions" as might at most be the outcome of a war lost. That is a degree of defeatism not to be demanded of a country that has up to the present acquitted itself well enough in every struggle with hostile neighbours.

How little genuine justification there is for any scheme such as Sir Anthony Eden's by which Israel would be required to meet Arab demands half way emerges plainly enough from the remarkable documents captured from the Syrian Army during the Kinneret raid. The bare-faced, one-sided decision to shift the borders agreed in an armistice and shoot accordingly, does not invite amiable concessions, and Syria's protest after the raid scarcely deserved the quick British support it received. The system of offering concessions amounting to total abdication in the hope of buying off Arab hostility has not served Britain so well in either Egypt or Jordan that Israel will feel inclined to take it up and make it her own.

Last-Minute Switch in Jordan

By GIDEON WEIGERT

THE dissolution of the Amman Parliament and the nomination of successive caretaker cabinets will not put an end to the internal strife that is rending Jordan and may well decide the future of the Hashemite Kingdom and affect the balance of power in the Middle East.

One must distinguish between two issues here: one, domestic, is the gap between the "Palestinians", who regard themselves as Westernised, and the Trans-Jordanians, with their simpler standards. The other, is the effect of Jordan's adhesion to the Baghdad pact on the split in the Arab League.

Less than a year after the annexation of Arab Palestine by Abdullah, the Old City, daily, "El Ba'ath," blasted the Trans-Jordan rulers in an editorial entitled "I see heads in Amman that need chopping off." That was in 1950, and even then organized Palestinian elements were in close contact with anti-Hashemite factions subscribing to a strongly anti-British and pro-Egyptian policy.

At the end of the same year, speakers in Amman parliament were alleging that British commanders had prevented the Arab Legion from participating more actively in the war against the Jews. Demanding that British air forces be withdrawn from Jordan and British officers dismissed from the Legion, it was this faction that pushed through the House a resolution of solidarity with Egypt in her conflict with the British, expressing "its hope that Jordan, too, would soon free herself from British ties."

It was Jordan's ever-present financial difficulties that convinced even many a partisan of national self-assertion that it would be wiser to rely on Britain. The other Arab countries did not even raise the £4m. they had promised for a potash project on the site of the old Palestine Potash works at the mouth of the Jordan which might have helped to put Jordan on the road to economic independence. Britain, on the other hand, began to pour in military aid and development funds over and above the £8.5m., which she contributes every year for the Arab Legion.

Impressed by Proposals

General Templer's latest proposals have been openly described in the Jordan Press as "most tempting and liable to solve Jordan's traditional economic, political and financial crisis once and for all." No wonder Said el Mufti, a Circassian, and relatively lukewarm on the Israel issue, and young King Hussein, educated in Britain and faced with the example of his prosperous yet independent cousin, Faisal II of Iraq, were not the only ones to be impressed.

Many influential Palestinians changed their minds and the four Palestinian members who resigned from the el Mufti Cabinet, precipitating its fall, did not do so in order to prevent the signing of the Baghdad pact as such, but mainly to avoid personal responsibility for this move. On the other hand, the Mayors of the Old City, Ramallah and Hebron accepted posts in the Majali Cabinet, pledged though the Premier was to a pro-Baghdad pact policy, apparently prepared to face whatever criticism there might be of their action. Feeling against Britain on the cabinet level is, apparently much less strong than among the Shabab of the streets.

But however strongly anti-Western feelings may flare up when there is an opportunity to demonstrate, suffering and unemployment in the past eight years have also left their mark. This feeling has been heightened by Egypt's inability to keep her pledges of aid for the National Guard, as well as by the fear that closer ties with Egypt might lead to stronger reactions from Israel.

The result may be illustrated with two examples from the Palestinian Press. It has largely switched over from an anti-Partition stand to a pro-Partition attitude; the black frames that used to appear around its pages on November 2 and November 29 every year were not there this time.

This summer was the first time since 1948 that the Jordan Cabinet agreed to Glubb's demand that the National Guard no longer be employed on supporting local villagers in illegal harvesting across the Israel lines. Drastic sentences were imposed on infiltrators into Israel (called "smugglers" to placate the Palestinians) and stringent controls were enforced across the 10-kilometre deep security zone along the frontiers despite vociferous protests by frontier villages.

Ibrahim Hashim, Premier-Designate

It is likely enough that Jordan will in the end join the Baghdad pact, whether it be through the Parliament that is to be elected in another four months or so as the result of the Government stifling all opposition by banning parties, closing political clubs and silencing the press, as Nuri Said did before Iraq could join the Turco-Pakistan pact. But the internal rift remains: witness the purge in the ranks of the Arab Legion, which comes after years of rivalry with the essentially nationalistic and Palestinian National Guard. Opposition M.P.'s from Palestine, known for their receptiveness to Egyptian propaganda, attacked the Government's National Guard bill in Parliament as early as June last year for not getting rid of the British commanders.

Although no one has yet advanced any concrete proposal on how to raise the £10m. and more supplied annually by the British taxpayer for the maintenance of the Legion and the National Guard as well as for economic aid, the parliamentary opposition has not ceased to demand that Jordan forgo British aid and organise her own independent army. "The Legion will never be able to defend our border unless it is placed under Arab (read Egyptian) command and the National Guard is freed from Legion control (read British restraint)" it was argued. But who will pay for the Legion once it is under "Arab" control?

'WHERE IS THE BOOTY?'

Infant Tunisian Home Rule Can't Keep Up with Popular Demands

By HOWARD LONG

TUNIS. — WHEN Habib Bourguiba came home to Tunis in triumph last June from his long French exile, he was given a gala banquet. Everybody was there: the Prime Minister, the Cabinet, numerous relatives of the Bey, the labour union leaders, all the old comrades from the Neo-Destour, all the old enemies from the Résidence Generale. The evening flowed with salutes to the Conventions just agreed between Tunisia and France, to impending Home Rule, to a future bright with hope of growth and bloom in freedom.

Tunisia's George Washington rose to the occasion. In French, passionately, with glistening eye and inspired syllables, Bourguiba extolled the genius of France. He praised her new enlightenment and greatness of soul. He gazed rhetorically into the mists ahead and saw an eternity of Franco-Tunisian friendship and mutual beatitude. He was simply magnificent.

When he sat down, ecstatic, the hall rocking with huzzas, one of his staunchest Party associates leaned across the table and spoke in laconic and homely native patois somewhat as follows: "Hey! Haven't you noticed? There are Arabs in the room!" Bourguiba clutched his handsome head. He sheepishly got back on his feet. He signalled for silence. Then he gave the whole speech over again—in Arabic.

Time passed. Ratification of the Conventions, signature by the Bey and President Coty, exchange of ratifications. Retirement of Tunisia's last Protectorate government. On September 17, induction of her first "autonomous" government since 1882. At this writing, less than three months later, it is again quite noticeable that there are Arabs in the room.

Maybe the habit of resistance to authority has become congenital because of the long and bloody struggle against France. The fact is that all three Arabic dailies are now agin' their own Government. To get a good word in for the Cabinet, the Neo-Destour's Political Bureau has actually been compelled to rent a printing plant and start another newspaper.

If you were to put a tag to the dissatisfaction rumbling over the country, it would be: Where is the booty?

Believe it or not, there has been trouble on Tunis electric street cars because some riders thought Home Rule meant no more fares. Others were shocked to see the rent collector. Not a few citizens expected that taxes would be abolished. A little higher on the scale of sophistication, some are irate that, though France has been humbled, the French are still very much in Tunisia. Higher still, consternation is rife that Tunisians have not been admitted to the forest of government jobs presumably grown overnight by Liberation. At the top level, complaint rages against the slowness — some call it the absence — of government decisions.

Interlacing all this gamut of resentment is the know-not but widespread conviction that nothing has visibly changed despite victory.

Yes, there is a new blaze of white Crescent and Star centred in a crimson field on the flagmasts of government buildings. The exiles have returned. The jails have disgorged their political prisoners. The four French directors whose word was law in Public Works, Posts and Telegraphs, Education and Finance have gone away. There is a brand-new Ministry of Interior, operated by a man in a fez. Instead of Resident General, the energetic and casual young Roger Seydoux wears the more discreet title of Haut Commissaire.

But Seydoux is nevertheless the Bey's Minister of Defence and Minister of Foreign Affairs. Technically, he is even the ultimate boss of the Tunisian police. By treaty now, instead of by compulsion, Tunisia's economy is tightly linked with that of France—requiring all trade and financial contacts with the outer world to go through French channels. Why, say the malcontents, we are as enslaved as ever!

The one thing which has palpably and monumentally changed, even to the most myopic naked eye, is the Neo-Destour. The party which led the Liberation fight with impressive unity and sacrifice is now tragically split. One cannot yet measure the relative size of the pieces into which the Party—and the country—have broken. But the rupture is clearly dangerous, and could turn mortal.

(This is the first of a series of articles.)

Up-to-Date Electronic Computer in Rehovot

IN the basement hall of the main Weizmann Institute building at Rehovot, a remarkable robot is now being "shocked" into existence. When the last of the pieces of the jigsaw design fell into its preordained place just recently, one of the world's latest models of the High-Speed All-Digital Electronic Computer emerged from a jungle of tiny wires and vacuum tubes.

The main body of the instrument consists of large frames which contain row upon row of tiny vacuum tubes. Some 2,000 of these tubes are incorporated in the computer; they are interconnected by a maze of electrical wiring.

The operation of the instrument is purely electronic. No moving parts are used and the only changes which occur are those of electrical currents inside the tubes. The eye merely sees the twinkling and flickering of the many tubes as they go on and off during operation.

A striking feature is the fact that instead of the ordinary numerals 1, 2, 3, and so forth, the machine uses only two figures: 0 and 1. The instrument, as it were, counts only up to two! Any larger number is divided into groups of 2 (i.e., pairs) and the number of pairs is then counted. In mathematical language, this is expressed by saying that the machine works on the binary system of arithmetic, whereas in everyday life we use the decimal system.

As an example, the number 403682 is written 1100010100011100010 in binary notation.

The enormous advantage of using this system follows from the fact that the instrument has to learn the use of two figures only: 0 and 1. This means great economy and simplicity in design as compared with the older-type machines, which had to juggle ten different figures around. If it is desired that a tube represent "0", the only requirement is that it should transmit a certain current. To represent the numeral "1" it is made to pass a different current. Only an infinitesimal part of a second is necessary for these operations and therein lies the secret of the instrument's fabulous speed. No machine with mechanical moving parts can equal the speed of an electronic computer because simple mechanical inertia slows it down.

A DOZEN specially trained people were employed for nearly two years in putting together the electronic computer at the Weizmann Institute, which answers questions in higher mathematics within millionths of a second.

The main part of the machine is called the "arithmetic unit." This is the largest and most important part which, at enormous speed, carries out the four basic arithmetical operations: addition, substraction, multiplication, and division. Though it is electronic in nature, this part is a close parallel to the desk calculating machine.

The arithmetic unit is "fed" constantly with numbers, which it has to digest by performing on them the various operations mentioned and storing them away. The part which feeds the arithmetic unit and receives the results is called the "memory" of the machine. The memory is analogous to the sheet of paper used by the human operator, on which results are recorded and then submitted to the computer for new computations.

The part of the machine which controls all these operations is called the "control unit." This part, which plays the role of the human brain, directs and keeps track of every operation which is executed. It emits an unceasing flow of electrical signals to the various parts of the machine, ordering them to carry out the operations necessary for a certain calculation.

At the beginning of the calculation, a human operator places in the control unit the series of orders which he wants executed. He may then leave the instrument alone to carry on with the computation, at the end of which the results are automatically printed on ordinary paper by the machine.

Many problems in higher mathematics require extremely long and involved calculations. These may take such a long time to carry out that it would be impracticable to execute them. Many such problems are encountered in physics, engineering, chemistry, and the like, and have often been left unsolved simply because of their tediousness.

These difficulties, however, do not exist for the electronic computer. It can perform 1,000 multiplications and 100,000 additions in one second! The machine, therefore, opens almost limitless possibilities to scientists with a problem to solve.

KEEPING POSTED

IT looks as though there might again be little Christmas spirit in Bethlehem this year. Instead of preparing to cross the lines to the Old City, some from Israel of the Christians, at least the foreign residents among them, are coming out of the Old City to wait this side of the barbed wire until the Jordan Government crisis has blown over. Boys on the streets of Arab cities need very little encouragement to throw stones at Westerners. They do not own the hotels or restaurants, and are not even inhibited by any thought of what they may be doing to the tourist trade that has so carefully been fostered by Jordan, even at the cost of maintaining something that is dangerously like coordination or even cooperation with the Israel authorities.

• • •

BUT there have not been many Christmas Eves in recent years on which you could set out in comfort on the pilgrimage to Bethlehem, a city which is at least twice as romantic at night as by daylight, when poverty and open drains and dirt show more starkly. One year the war had broken out. One year the Patria had just been blown up in Haifa Port, and bodies were being brought up daily. One year the Italian prisoners came in from the desert; one year allied soldiers had retired from the desert. One year the Americans had come in.

• • •

EARLY on in the war, the pilgrimage was quite the thing: rather like a first night at the opera. Perhaps not really an opera — there is something un-English about opera. More like a flower show. Go by car and take the children. And put in a hamper with sandwiches and a couple of thermos flasks, because the traffic gets all snarled up every year. With luck there was a good moon in a clear sky, shining brilliantly on the pale stone houses to create the illusion of a "white" Christmas even without snow. Car followed well-polished car down the pretty winding road to Bethlehem, past Mar Elias monastery, gaunt and forbidding and without any suggestion of cosy Christmas cheer. Then past Rachel's Tomb, to be caught up immediately in the fairground atmosphere of the town where open stalls offered coloured drinks and chipped sweets to the Arab crowds that had come out to see English officialdom on holiday. Everyone was good humoured. At every crossing there was a British policeman with large moustaches to keep traffic in the main lanes and prevent visitors from losing their way. If you really wanted to get into Bethlehem itself and not drive directly to the Church of the Nativity, you would have quite a time persuading the traffic policeman that maybe you were on your way to visit an uncle in a back street.

• • •

THE Church stands back in a little courtyard that marked the end of the town at that time. Its walls were reinforced with sandbags piled high and topped with barbed wire, and the barbed-wire knife-edge obstacles had been pulled aside for the day and neatly piled up in a corner. To one side of the yard is "the needle's eye" and built only about a metre high to force the proudest crusader to bow his head as he entered. The soldiers had been withdrawn from their positions and permitted to attend the service instead, and there were only two men guarding the entrance, one on either side of the doorway, their bayonets crossed above it. The effect was decorative and might almost have been posed by a photographer looking for the perfect wartime shot, but several American soldiers with flashlight bulbs were stopped from taking pictures owing to the sanctity of the occasion. At the entrance to the Catholic Church there was another soldier with a bayonet, who muttered about the d---cold coming up from that damp stone floor.

• • •

ARAB choirs tend to sing Western music out of tune, and a full Christmas service is long for a visitor. Most of the English soon crept up, candle in hand, to the incredibly ancient little open terrace of roof, where chairs had been placed in rows for the carol service, to look at the sky and stars and the corner of the white bell-tower to wait for the traditional bells to ring out, and to let their minds wander to friends in England who were hearing the carols and bells on the BBC by special arrangement. No Mandate could make Palestine British, or either Jews or Arabs into colonial subjects. This roof, at this time, was the only thing in the country pervaded by an English flavour that could be witnessed and enjoyed by the peoples of the place, as they might have witnessed and enjoyed English customs in England, but were almost bound to look with critical eyes on anything else English here.

Yesterday's Press

ISRAEL PEACE PLAN

"DAVAR" (Histadrut) believes that the eight-point plan for a Middle East settlement submitted to Mr. Dulles fixes the limit of concessions Israel can agree to and emphasizes that there can be no "compromise" between the needs of peace and the needs of war. The only way to liquidate tension is to provide both sides with the real needs for peaceful life and progress, which can be achieved only through direct negotiations.

"Omer" (Histadrut) says that the plan proves that Israel desires peace and at the same time provides tests for the validity of the various peace rumours that have been at large for some time. The plan also proposes everything short of affecting Israel's sovereignty and territorial integrity. If the Arabs reject it out of hand, the world will be able to see who it is that harbours aggressive intentions.

Both "Al Hamishmar" (Mapam) and "Lamerhav" (Ahdut Ha'avoda) point out that the plan was not presented to the Government for approval and it is the fruit of the Foreign Ministry's initiative. Both papers, together with "Kol Ha'am" (Communist), which claims that the most important point—objection to the Baghdad pact — is missing, ask why the plan was handed to Dulles and not to the United Nations. "Al Hamishmar" goes on to say that the basic policy of the present Government has been violated in that the plan was not the joint decision of all parties concerned and warns that Mapam will not stand for such violation for long. "Lamerhav" also wants to know where the figure of 900,000 refugees comes from and how it is that the plan does not mention the payment of war damages by the Arabs as well as compensation for Jewish refugee property left behind in Arab countries.

Herut Opposition

"Herut" cries that we have been trapped. The coming period of haggling over Israel's "terms" will assure the Arabs of precious time for receiving all the arms and training needed for the showdown. The Israel public will not stand for it and will nip the Foreign Ministry's "peace campaign" in the bud.

"Haboker" (General Zionist) believes that the publication of the plan, though it is merely a recapitulation of things that have already been said, may have been intended to counter the British "peace offensive." But it would have been better if from time to time attention had been called to such Arab lapses as were disclosed in the captured Syrian documents that arbitrarily set up a new "International frontier." "Hamodia" (World Aguda) questions the political wisdom of publishing the plan at this juncture, saying that it will only invite pressure for more concessions, while "Hatzofe" (World Mizrahi) hopes that it will go far to illuminate Israel's position and help soften the effect of the Security Council's rebuff on the Kinneret incident.

Readers' Letters

VISITS TO U.K.

Editor, The Jerusalem Post

Sir, — Regarding the trips to the U.K. which we are organizing for British settlers in this country, reported briefly in your issue of December 9, the first one is planned for March 8 (not April), on the s.s. Jerusalem, at reduced rates. This will enable participants to spend Passover with their families in Britain.

Persons interested in the scheme are asked to contact the Israel Office of the British Zionist Federation, 53A Rehov Hayarkon, Tel Aviv.

Yours, etc.
SHLOMO TEMKIN
Director, Israel Office
Tel Aviv, December 12.

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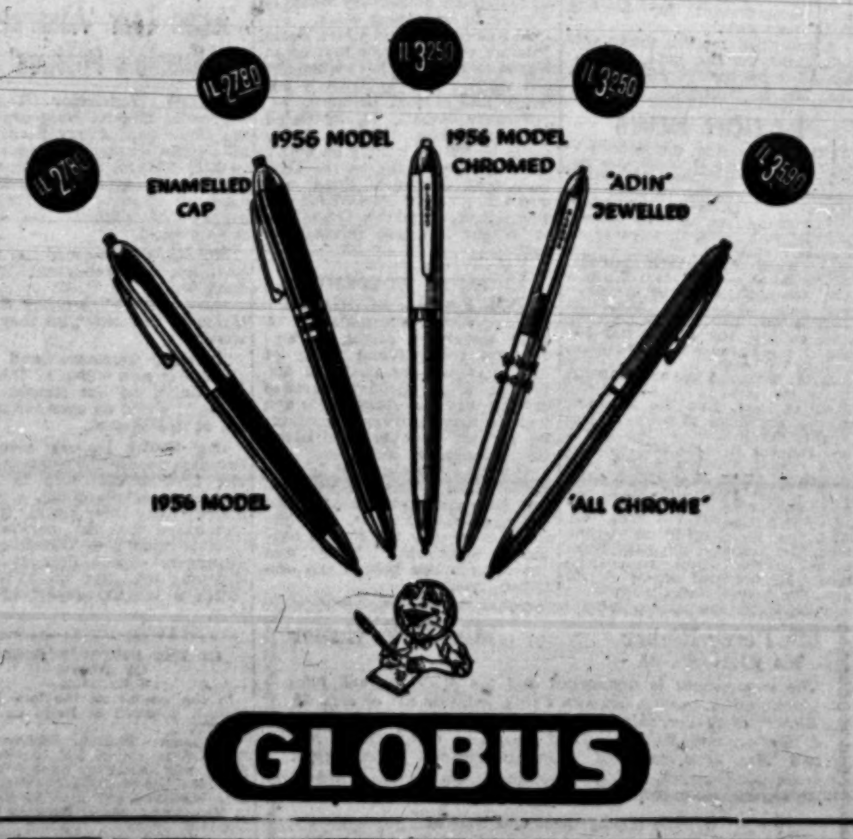
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Column One
By
David Courtney

IF I were a philosopher instead of a bemused political columnist I would say, at this season, something like this: God belongs to no religion and to all religions and partakes with equal relish of the Passover Supper and the Christmas dinner and the Moslem feast at the end of Ramadan. Of course, if I were a philosopher instead of a bemused political columnist I would know that all this has been said before by better philosophers and that there was no need to say it again. But the rediscovery of truth is as important as the original discovery of it. Next spring's flowers will be as surprisingly beautiful as the first spring's flowers were.

●

BUT I am not a philosopher and therefore am not really saying these things but merely wishing I knew how to. Besides, it is the eve of Christmas. When I was a small boy I was told how a Jewish man and wife of Nazareth came down to Bethlehem and because there was no room left in the inn were lodged in the stables and how there, among the surprised and fragrant-smelling cows a child was born, called Jesus. It was a pretty story that grew and grew but the main thing about it, as I remember it, was that out of that sweet episode in a Bethlehem stables would one day come peace on earth and goodwill to all men.

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NOW, if I were that philosopher I have mentioned I would say that two thousand years — or nearly that length of time — are really no more than a day or two and that the message of Bethlehem was the expression of a hope that is not religious or Christian or Jewish or anything like that but human and universal, which can only come about when man recognizes that the God everyone worships in one manner or another is within himself and that therefore if he goes out killing and burning and blowing up and making sad mischief among his neighbours he is not so much defying his God as being untrue to himself.

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DEAR me, I had better give up this amateurish infiltration into the affairs of philosophy and get back, so to speak, to the shoemaker's last, that is to say, to political commentary. The trouble is that however grown up and realistic and cynical one may have become with the years, the little boy who was told the story of Bethlehem tags along at one's side. Walter de la Mare, I remember, in a fond poem tells how, a sensible grown man full of years and pride, he wandered among the elms and there met himself as a small child. Most of us have had that experience; and many must have had it when something was being commemorated that in childhood went with warmth and cosiness, and a kindly security, and miraculous delight.

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I SUPPOSE it is nostalgia. One is shaken by what Pierre Loti in one of his nostalgic books calls *le frisson d'infinie tristesse*, which he felt as he lay in the shadow of cypress trees before the Mosque of Ayoub, on the shores of the Bosphorus. One day, perhaps, grown up and wise as we may be, we shall catch up with our childhood and that may mean catching up with God. The Spirit moved before any of us did, and swifter, and yet is behind us, but it is we who have to catch up with the Spirit by turning round and recognizing it far away in the innocence and belief of childhood.

●

NOT that I really know anything about it. There are people who spend their whole lives trying to know about it and teach us: the priests and the rabbis and the philosophers. They have written books and books about it, as is their business to do. I have not read the half or a tithe or a hundredth of them and suppose I never shall but I doubt if any of them has said anything better than came out of Sinai and Jerusalem and Bethlehem and few of us have time to read even that; and some of us (as I, for example, at this season), are content to fall back into the warm cavern of memory and seek the truth in pretty pictures long ago scratched on its walls.

Jerusalem, December 23.

SHARETT REPORTS TO KNESSET COMMITTEE

The Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee yesterday heard a report by the Foreign Minister, Mr. Moshe Sharett, on his recent visit to the U.S. and Canada.

Mr. Sharett also reported on the latest political and security developments, and replied to questions by Committee members. It was decided to resume the deliberations next week.

CHINESE GUN DUEL

TAIPEH, Thursday (Reuter). — Chinese mainland guns today fired more than 300 shells at the Nationalist-held island of Quemoy, the Defence Ministry reported here.

Heavy Fighting Is Reported In Paraguay Revolt

BUENOS AIRES, Thursday (Reuter). — Heavy fighting was going on in the streets of Asuncion, capital of Paraguay, where a revolution broke out during the night, according to a broadcast in Buenos Aires this morning.

All communications with Paraguay were cut off.

Reports reaching here said that the revolution began after President Alfredo Stroessner had ordered the arrest of Mr. Elfanio Mendez Fleitas, President of the Central Bank and "strong man" of the Colorado Party.

This party, of which President Stroessner is a member, is the only one allowed to function in Paraguay.

Mr. Mendez was accused of plotting against President Stroessner, the reports said.

The uprising began in a cavalry regiment in the capital and at the Campo Grande military garrison nearby.

Was Leader in Coup

Mr. Mendez played a leading part in the military coup in May, 1954, which overthrew President Chaves. Elections three months later brought Mr. Stroessner to power.

President Stroessner, whose opponents have accused him of being a dictator, has had a troubled rule. On January 25 this year the Government announced that a plot against him had been suppressed. When the deposed Argentinian President, Gen. Peron, sought refuge in Paraguay on October 2, his presence was reported to have caused President Stroessner, a personal friend of his, considerable embarrassment.

A newspaper correspondent, who went to Asuncion at the time, reported that sooner or later a revolt would break out.

Paraguayan exiles in Buenos Aires formed resistance groups, and unrest was said to be apparent among civilian and army officers in Paraguay itself.

Turkish Opposition Raps Gov't Pro-Arab Stand

ISTANBUL, Thursday (INA). — A violent attack on the Menderes Government and its Middle East policy was launched in Parliament during a debate by Mr. Ismet Inonu, leader of the opposition Republican Party and former President. Mr. Inonu charged that the wrongness of the policy was exemplified by Premier Adnan Menderes' encouragement of one side "by promising to rush to its frontiers just when Arab-Israel relations have worsened and when a peaceful solution to the problem is sought."

He also said that Turkey had assumed too many commitments in connection with the Baghdad pact. His reference of encouragement to one side was intended to criticize a statement attributed to Mr. Menderes when he told Jordan's Arab Legion that it should "not be surprised" if Turkish troops came to its aid in the event of war.

Nehru Said 'Embarrassed' By Russian Speeches

NEW DELHI, Thursday (UP)— Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru today reportedly accused Russia's leaders of "twisting history" in some of their speeches during their tour of India.

Delegates at a closed meeting of Mr. Nehru's Congress Party said that the Premier had declared that he was "embarrassed" by some of the things Soviet Premier Nikolai Bulganin and the Communist Party Chief, Mr. Nikita Khrushchev, had said.

Mr. Nehru was reported to have said that the Russians twisted history in charging that the Western Allies sent Nazi Germany against Russia in the early days of World War II.

Iraqi, British Air Force Chiefs Confer

LONDON, Thursday (Reuter).— The Iraqi Chief of Air Staff, Brigadier Kadhum Abadi, had two meetings today with his opposite number, Marshal of the Royal Air Force Sir William Dickson.

Abadi is on a four-day official visit to the R.A.F. after a three-week tour of the U.S. He called on Sir William at the Air Ministry this morning and met him again at a cocktail party given by the Iraqi Air Attache tonight

WHEAT FOR ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, Thursday (Reuter). — The Department of Agriculture announced today that a purchase authorization issued in June to Israel to buy U.S. wheat or wheat flour for Israel pounds has been increased to $2.214m. The June authorization permitted purchase of $1.145m. worth of wheat.

W. Berlin to Pay Israel $3m. Restitution

BERLIN, Thursday (UP). — The West Berlin City Government and the Jewish Restitution Successor Organization today signed an agreement totalling 13.5m. marks ($3.24m.) to cover Berlin restitution payments. Under the agreement, the City of Berlin will pay 1m. marks ($240,000) to the Berlin Jewish community, and agrees to deliver to Israel goods totalling 12.5m. marks ($3m.).

Present at the signing ceremony were Mayor Otto Suhr of West Berlin and the Director of the Jewish organization, Mr. S. P. Ferencz.

41 Killed in Riots, Jordan Admits

Forty-one persons were killed and 150 wounded during the recent riots in Jordan, it was officially reported in Amman yesterday. It is believed that most of the deaths occurred when troops fired on demonstrators.

The new Cabinet, sworn in on Wednesday to supervise elections, held its first meeting yesterday. It expressed satisfaction at the return to normalcy in the country, and also reviewed the results of the Anglo-Jordan financial talks. It also asked the Minister of Interior to arrange a programme for the parliamentary elections.

The agricultural school at Jabiha was closed by the Jordan authorities after a general strike was called by students as a protest against the detention of two students who participated in the anti-Baghdad riots. The students yesterday were forcibly placed on lorries and driven to their home towns and villages.

'Pravda' Lauds Jordan's 'Courageous Partisans'

MOSCOW, Thursday. — The Communist Party newspaper "Pravda" today praised the "courageous partisans" who rioted in Jordan for five days against the Baghdad pact and caused the downfall of the new Government backing it.

Fawzi, Saud to Discuss Subsidy to Jordan

CAIRO, Thursday (Reuter). — Foreign Minister, Mahmoud Fawzi, and War Minister Major-General Abdul Hakim Amer, left Cairo by air for Saudi Arabia today to meet King Saud.

They will discuss with him the question of replacing the annual British subsidy to the Jordan Government, an Egyptian spokesman said. Reports yesterday said that Egypt, Syria and Saudi Arabia had offered Jordan to give her an annual grant equal to the British subsidy.

Defence Pact

Fawzi and Amer, will also discuss implementation of the recently concluded Egyptian-Saudi Arabian mutual defence pact, the spokesman added.

(In Damascus, Premier Said Ghazzi said that he might personally visit King Hussein of Jordan and members of the new Jordanian Government in connection with Syria's offer of aid to permit Jordan to dispense with British financial help. In Amman, former Defence Minister Farhan Shubeilat said in a press interview that "we would prefer Arab aid." But he pointed out that the same Arab states that were now considering the offer had refused to help Jordan's National Guard which needed £1m. — an insignificant sum compared with the £11.9m. British subsidy. And Britain had promised to double it.)

Temporary Cease-Fire For North Malaya

KULLA LUMPUR, Malaya, Thursday (Reuter).—The Government today announced a cease-fire from tomorrow night over 1,000 square kms. in North Perak where "peace talks" with Malayan Communists are scheduled next week.

A new face

Housewife Tamar now takes a bow amongst the galaxy of well-known characters whose face has become so familiar to readers of this newspaper. Her name is composed of the first letters of the Hebrew words "Tamsit Marak" (Soup Seasoning). Although her name is new, the product that Housewife Tamar invites you to sample is by no means new, for OSEM has long been supplying these seasonings in large-size bottles to restaurants, kibbutzim, and the kitchens of hospitals, canteens, etc. OSEM Seasoning is now available to the general public in handy-sized, 3 cornered bottles with "Drip Lids," and will soon be making its appearance in every home where tasty foods are appreciated. A few drops of it improves the taste of soups, sauces, salads, vegetables and other dishes.

Algeria Prepares To Demand Full Independence

PARIS, Thursday (Reuter). — A move to demand recognition of Algeria as a separate nation was reported today from the French North African territory, where a fresh outbreak of terrorism is casting a growing shadow over the French election campaign.

In the past three days, 52 persons have been killed in a wave of attacks by rebels who want to change Algeria's status as a province of France.

The Governor-General, M. Jacques Soustelle, is reported to have asked for another 60,000 troops to reinforce the 168,000 now stationed in Algeria.

The present French caretaker Government, in charge of the country until its successor is formed after polling on January 2, is believed to be embarrassed by the request. An unwritten convention prevents a temporary government from taking a major decision such as sending big reinforcements, and this would also need calling more conscripts — an unpopular move which would almost certainly damage the chances of the Government centre-right parties in the election.

Prime Minister Edgar Faure decided last night to send out a small commission of inquiry to find exactly what is needed, but this is widely felt here to be a temporizing measure designed to stave off any action until after the elections.

Jacques Duhamel, the Premier's chief personal assistant, will lead the inquiry.

Tunis Dispatch—Page 4

Belgium Hopes For Halt to Arms Flow

BRUSSELS, Thursday.—Belgium "earnestly" hopes that the flow of war surplus through Belgium to "unknown destinations" will cease, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said yesterday. He made the statement as the Egyptian ship "Al Kahira" was about to depart for Alexandria with another 15 reconditioned Valentine tanks bought as scrap in Britain.

The spokesman said that Belgium has not departed from the joint undertaking to maintain a balance in the supply of arms to the Middle East made by Britain, the U.S. and France in 1950. He stressed that the shipments from Belgium "were perfectly in order as far as we are concerned."

Meanwhile, the London "Daily Herald" said editorially today that the "scandal of British tanks finding their way to the Middle East" is growing worse. It asked, "Communist arms are going to Egypt officially, but what sort of thing is this? Britain is one of the countries responsible for Middle East peace."

Latest reports in London today said that some 150 surplus tanks are being put into fighting trim in Belgium, of which 30 have already been sent to Egypt. Informed sources stated that the size of the business — buying war surplus in Britain — is "quite substantial." *(Reuter, UP)*

Dutch Firms Told To Ignore Arab Threats

THE HAGUE, Thursday (Reuter). — The Foreign Minister without Portfolio, Mr. Joseph Luns, told the Second Chamber (Lower House) here tonight that there was "no legal basis" for Arab countries to stage an economic boycott of Israel.

The Minister was replying to questions on a circular sent recently to Dutch firms by the Arab states asking for information on their trade with Israel and informing them of the boycott. He said it would be "unwise" for Holland to be intimidated by any threats of action under the boycott.

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The National Council For the Prevention of Accidents

Security Council Postpones Kinneret Debate; Eban Outlines Syrian Threat

Israel's Rights Are Inviolable

Jerusalem Post Reporter

"Israel is determined that her rights shall remain inviolable and unrestricted," the Foreign Ministry spokesman stated yesterday in commenting on the report and recommendations sent to the U.N. Security Council by Maj.-Gen. E. L. M. Burns, Chief of Staff of the Truce Supervision Organization.

In general, it is considered, Gen. Burns' report is disappointing in that it fails to take its stand on the Armistice Agreement itself, but attempts to reinterpret this, apparently with a view to accommodating Syrian infringements of the Agreement in the past.

Gen. Burns said in his report, "Israel's right to send police boats to patrol anywhere in Lake Tiberias would in no way be impaired by a new gentleman's agreement to keep them at a certain distance from the shore."

This would be very much like saying that Israel's rights exist on paper but not on the waters of the Lake, where their protection is of importance to Israel and where they have been challenged by Syria, the spokesman said.

He recalled that the General Armistice Agreement, confirmed subsequently by the Mixed Armistice Commission, was definite on the point that the entire area of the Lake belonged to Israel.

"Gen. Burns' observation that a solution within the scope of the General Armistice Agreement would not be realistic strikes a strange note," the spokesman said.

"While much could be gained in terms of border quiet and good-neighbourly relations between Israel and Syria by negotiating agreements on the basis of the General Armistice Agreement, little will be achieved by discarding those Armistice provisions only because they have been repeatedly violated by Syria. This can only cause further encroachments."

Israel was always willing to consider arrangements with Syria in accordance with the Armistice Agreement and "has indeed herself proposed such arrangements in the past," the spokesman stated.

Four Essential Facts

The Burns report confirmed the continuing series of Syrian aggressions and breaches of the Armistice Agreement, and brought out two essential facts, he continued:

1. Persistent Syrian aggressions on Lake Kinneret have, says the report, "increased the tension between Israel and Syria," and
2. Israel offered to settle the problem peacefully and to grant fishing permits to Syrians to fish in the Lake. Syria rejected the offer of permits.

Gen. Burns' report omitted two other salient facts:

a. The Syrian Government as early as 1950, and later on other dates, undertook not to interfere in any manner with Israel activities on the Lake. She forbade Syrians to approach the Lake for any purpose whatsoever, and prohibited them from entering the 10-metre strip on the north-eastern shore which is also part of Israel.

b. The fact that Israel had unrestricted rights on the Lake and that the Syrians had none was confirmed as far back as March 15, 1954 by the Mixed Armistice Commission.

Gen. Burns disclosed in his report that Syrian army positions were under standing orders from the Syrian Chief of Staff to fire at all Israel vessels on the Lake within their range of fire, and to treat an area of 250 metres of the Lake from the eastern shore as Syrian territorial waters.

Why Gen. Burns did not care to mention points a and b in view of this disclosure was "inexplicable."

Moreover, the report could have mentioned that Syrian attacks were directed against vessels of all kinds and not only against police boats. "Not only policemen, but unarmed fishermen were among the dead, wounded and kidnapped."

Syria has illegally challenged Israel's established rights to the Lake, set up military posts commanding it (at least one of them was set up in Israel territory), persistently harassed Israel fishermen and at the same time refused to discuss Israel's offer to give Syrian fishermen access to the Lake.

As U.N. records show, the spokesman went on, every fishing season on Lake Kinneret has been marked by an upsurge of Syrian violence.

Syrian Shooting Season

"As soon as the fishing season on Lake Kinneret sets in, in November or December, the Syrian Army begins a shooting season against Israel fishermen."

In both the 1953-54 and 1954-55 seasons, scores of complaints were lodged on Syrian aggressions against Israel vessels on the Lake.

The spokesman also noted that Gen. Burns' report omitted any reference to an Israel communication sent to the Chairman of the Israel-Syrian Mixed Armistice Commission last September 30.

The communication, occasioned by the general situation in the area, said that "these (Syrian) premeditated aggressive acts have been increasing lately in severity and frequency. . . . The Chairman is therefore requested to take immediate steps to impress on the Syrian authorities the dangers to security and tranquillity along the Demarcation Line inherent in these repeated and increasing Syrian aggressions."

The spokesman continued, "It was hoped that this year, the U.N.'s influence would prevail upon Syria to honour her repeatedly broken promises to refrain from interference with Israel vessels on the Lake. The Syrian attacks on October 17, November 1 and December 10 were striking affirmation that

(Continued on Page 3, Col. 8)

Submits Captured Documents

UNITED NATIONS, Thursday. — The Israel Ambassador, Mr. Abba Eban, informed the U.N. Security Council today that Syria had erected bridgeheads in Israel territory along the northeastern shore of Lake Kinneret with the intention of establishing her claim to this area by force.

The statement was made in a letter to the Council shortly before it was to meet on the Syrian complaint against the Israel military action on December 11 which cleared the area of the Syrian positions. After a brief meeting, the Council decided to postpone consideration of the dispute to a date to be fixed by the Council President after January 1.

The new Council will take over after that date, and will include Yugoslavia, Cuba, Australia instead of Brazil, Turkey and New Zealand.

Earlier the Syrian delegate, Ahmed Shukeiry, submitted a seven-point resolution to the Council in which he demanded U.N. sanctions against Israel and her expulsion from the United Nations. The resolution also demanded that Israel pay compensation for the loss of life and damage to property during the attack.

Photographs Attached

Attached to Mr. Eban's letter to the Council were photographs and photostats of Syrian documents seized in the operation. These documents lead to conclusions of the highest importance, Mr. Eban pointed out. They prove:

a) Syrian positions, established both in Syrian territory and on a strip of Israel territory, have had as their avowed objective the forcible denial to Israel of peaceful activity in Israel territory.

b) These Syrian positions were also intended to establish, by the use of threat of force, Syrian control of Israel territory, including a part of Lake Tiberias.

c) The attacks on Israel craft were not isolated incidents, but were part of a purposeful effort to transfer to Syria the effective control of part of Lake Tiberias and Israel territory on its northern-eastern shore.

The Israel Government, the letter said, has no alternative but to regard with the utmost gravity these Syrian threats on her territorial integrity, and the peace and security of the Middle East. It added that Israel will demand regular meetings of the Council to request that the Council adopt active measures against aggressive encroachment of Israel territory.

U.N. Secretary to Use Influence in Mid-East

UNITED NATIONS, Thursday (INA). — Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjold will attempt to use his personal influence with the heads of all Middle Eastern Governments, including Israel, to effect some kind of *rapprochement* between the conflicting countries.

At a news conference today, Mr. Hammarskjold announced that he will leave soon on a two-month trip to capitals of 15 member states, during which he will visit Jerusalem, as well as Cairo, Beirut, and the capitals of other Arab League states.

He declined to discuss the letter he has received from Premier Abdul Nasser of Egypt, threatening war against Israel, and said he would reply "in another place." This was immediately interpreted to mean that he will discuss this with Abdul Nasser himself and possibly with Mr. David Ben-Gurion.

Mr. Hammarskjold said he probably would not have Gen. E.L.M. Burns accompany him on his visits to the Middle East capitals. He added that the primary purpose of his trip was to enable him to attend the next meeting of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE) in Bangalore, India, on February 2.

GEN. BURNS BACK FROM LEBANON

Maj.-Gen. E.L.M. Burns, Chief of the Truce Supervision Organization, returned to Jerusalem from the Lebanon yesterday afternoon after conferring with Gen. Fuad Shiab, Lebanese Chief of Staff. The T.S.O. spokesman would not disclose the nature of their discussions.

AIR VIOLATIONS

An Egyptian aircraft flew over Israel territory opposite the Gaza Strip on Wednesday afternoon, the Army spokesman has announced.

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PEACE WITHOUT BRIBES

IN the present delicate situation it was hardly to be supposed that Israel's honest attempt at a contribution towards the cause of peace should have been accepted with any great show of enthusiasm either in Cairo or in Washington. There has been no war to infuse a sense of urgency into Egypt, and with renewed talk of a Western-sponsored Aswan Dam the Middle East crisis is no longer so dire in the eyes of Mr. Dulles as to demand immediate action that might be construed by the Arab states as favourable to Israel. There has even been a suggestion out of Washington that Israel's proposals, which include such offers as direct land communications between Egypt and Jordan, a free zone in Haifa port for the latter, and an arrangement for compensation to refugees, are not "serious concessions" such as might make it possible for the United States to mediate.

There is a profound misapprehension here of Israel's intentions. Israel has not offered "concessions" in an attempt to buy off Egyptian hostility or pander to Nasser's need for prestige, for the Israel government does not consider that it is in the wrong in existing in its present boundaries and must atone by giving up a part of its territory. On the contrary, it considers that the Arab states, having first of all failed to accept the U.N. partition proposals, and having upset them by force of arms, and having next failed to destroy Israel in their concerted attacks, are now bound by the Armistice Agreements made and signed by all the parties concerned following the fighting of 1948. They have also failed to keep the Armistice Agreements, which Israel is now, after years of one-sided discipline, belatedly enforcing herself. There is no good reason in all this for bribes to States that have failed to keep their contractual obligations in the past. What Israel has endeavoured to map out in her peace proposals are good-will offers to the neighbouring states in order to ease such genuine problems as that of the refugees and the barrier between Egypt and the north, which the existence of Israel has brought into being, even if not through any fault of her own but rather as a consequence of Arab hostility. The borders themselves do not cut into the area of any Arab states and constitute at most a psychological problem that will not be cured by shifting them. The murderous flow of Czech armaments has now made war almost inevitable sooner or later unless genuine peace can be established first, whereas six months ago it was possible to contemplate many years of no-war and no-peace. Israel's desire for peace talks is most genuine; but they must be based on the realization that peace is best for all concerned and not on such territorial or other "concessions" as might at most be the outcome of a war lost. That is a degree of defeatism not to be demanded of a country that has up to the present acquitted itself well enough in every struggle with hostile neighbours.

How little genuine justification there is for any scheme such as Sir Anthony Eden's by which Israel would be required to meet Arab demands half way emerges plainly enough from the remarkable documents captured from the Syrian Army during the Kinneret raid. The bare-faced, one-sided decision to shift the borders agreed in an armistice and shoot accordingly, does not invite amiable concessions, and Syria's protest after the raid scarcely deserved the quick British support it received. The system of offering concessions amounting to total abdication in the hope of buying off Arab hostility has not served Britain so well in either Egypt or Jordan that Israel will feel inclined to take it up and make it her own.

Last-Minute Switch in Jordan

By GIDEON WEIGERT

THE dissolution of the Amman Parliament and the nomination of successive caretaker cabinets will not put an end to the internal strife that is rending Jordan and may well decide the future of the Hashemite Kingdom and affect the balance of power in the Middle East.

One must distinguish between two issues here: one, domestic, is the gap between the "Palestinians", who regard themselves as Westernised, and the Trans-Jordanians, with their simpler standards. The other, is the effect of Jordan's adhesion to the Baghdad pact on the split in the Arab League.

Less than a year after the annexation of Arab Palestine by Abdullah, the Old City, daily, "El Ba'ath," blasted the Trans-Jordan rulers in an editorial entitled "I see heads in Amman that need chopping off." That was in 1950, and even then organized Palestinian elements were in close contact with anti-Hashemite factions subscribing to a strongly anti-British and pro-Egyptian policy.

At the end of the same year, speakers in Amman parliament were alleging that British commanders had prevented the Arab Legion from participating more actively in the war against the Jews. Demanding that British air forces be withdrawn from Jordan and British officers dismissed from the Legion, it was this faction that pushed through the House a resolution of solidarity with Egypt in her conflict with the British, expressing "its hope that Jordan, too, would soon free herself from British ties."

It was Jordan's ever-present financial difficulties that convinced even many a partisan of national self-assertion that it would be wiser to rely on Britain. The other Arab countries did not even raise the £4m. they had promised for a potash project on the site of the old Palestine Potash works at the mouth of the Jordan which might have helped to put Jordan on the road to economic independence. Britain, on the other hand, began to pour in military aid and development funds over and above the £8.5m., which she contributes every year for the Arab Legion.

Impressed by Proposals

General Templer's latest proposals have been openly described in the Jordan Press as "most tempting and liable to solve Jordan's traditional economic, political and financial crisis once and for all." No wonder Said el Mufti, a Circassian, and relatively lukewarm on the Israel issue, and young King Hussein, educated in Britain and faced with the example of his prosperous yet independent cousin, Faisal II of Iraq, were not the only ones to be impressed.

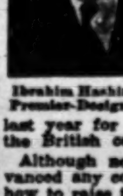
Many influential Palestinians changed their minds and the four Palestinian members who resigned from the el Mufti Cabinet, precipitating its fall, did not do so in order to prevent the signing of the Baghdad pact as such, but mainly to avoid personal responsibility for this move. On the other hand, the Mayors of the Old City, Ramallah and Hebron accepted posts in the Majali Cabinet, pledged though the Premier was to a pro-Baghdad pact policy, apparently prepared to face whatever criticism there might be of their action. Feeling against Britain on the cabinet level is, apparently much less strong than among the Shabab of the streets.

But however strongly anti-Western feelings may flare up when there is an opportunity to demonstrate, suffering and unemployment in the past eight years have also left their mark. This feeling has been heightened by Egypt's inability to keep her pledges of aid for the National Guard, as well as by the fear that closer ties with Egypt might lead to stronger reactions from Israel.

The result may be illustrated with two examples from the Palestinian Press. It has largely switched over from an anti-Partition stand to a pro-Partition attitude; the black frames that used to appear around its pages on November 2 and November 29 every year were not there this time.

This summer was the first time since 1948 that the Jordan Cabinet agreed to Glubb's demand that the National Guard no longer be employed on supporting local villagers in illegal harvesting across the Israel lines. Drastic sentences were imposed on infiltrators into Israel (called "smugglers" to placate the Palestinians) and stringent controls were enforced across the 10-kilometre deep security zone along the frontiers despite vociferous protests by frontier villages.

It is likely enough that Jordan will in the end join the Baghdad pact, whether it be through the Parliament that is to be elected in another four months or so as the result of the Government stifling all opposition by banning parties, closing political clubs and silencing the press, as Nuri Said did before Iraq could join the Turco-Pakistan pact. But the internal rift remains: witness the purge in the ranks of the Arab Legion, which comes after years of rivalry with the essentially nationalistic and Palestinian National Guard.



Ibrahim Hashim, Premier-Designate

Opposition M.P.'s from Palestine, known for their receptiveness to Egyptian propaganda, attacked the Government's National Guard bill in Parliament as early as June last year for not getting rid of the British commanders.

Although no one has yet advanced any concrete proposal on how to raise the £10m. and more supplied annually by the British taxpayer for the maintenance of the Legion and the National Guard as well as for economic aid, the parliamentary opposition has not ceased to demand that Jordan forgo British aid and organise her own independent army. "The Legion will never be able to defend our border unless it is placed under Arab (read Egyptian) command and the National Guard is freed from Legion control (read British restraint)" it was argued. But who will pay for the Legion once it is under "Arab" control?

'WHERE IS THE BOOTY?'

Infant Tunisian Home Rule Can't Keep Up with Popular Demands

By HOWARD LONG

TUNIS. — WHEN Habib Bourguiba came home to Tunis in triumph last June from his long French exile, he was given a gala banquet. Everybody was there: the Prime Minister, the Cabinet, numerous relatives of the Bey, the labour union leaders, all the old comrades from the Neo-Destour, all the old enemies from the Résidence Generale. The evening flowed with salutes to the Conventions just agreed between Tunisia and France, to impending Home Rule, to a future bright with hope of growth and bloom in freedom.

Tunisia's George Washington rose to the occasion. In French, passionately, with glistening eye and inspired syllables, Bourguiba extolled the genius of France. He praised her new enlightenment and greatness of soul. He gazed rhetorically into the mists ahead and saw an eternity of Franco-Tunisian friendship and mutual beatitude. He was simply magnificent.

When he sat down, ecstatic, the hall rocking with huzzas, one of his staunchest Party associates leaned across the table and spoke in laconic and homely native patois somewhat as follows: "Hey! Haven't you noticed? There are Arabs in the room!" Bourguiba clutched his handsome head. He sheepishly got back on his feet. He signalled for silence. Then he gave the whole speech over again—in Arabic.

Time passed. Ratification of the Conventions, signature by the Bey and President Coty, exchange of ratifications. Retirement of Tunisia's last Protectorate government. On September 17, induction of her first "autonomous" government since 1883. At this writing, less than three months later, it is again quite noticeable that there are Arabs in the room.

Maybe the habit of resistance to authority has become congenital because of the long and bloody struggle against France. The fact is that all three Arabic dailies are now agin' their own Government. To get a good word in for the Cabinet, the Neo-Destour's Political Bureau has actually been compelled to rent a printing plant and start another newspaper.

If you were to put a tag to the dissatisfaction rumbling over the country, it would be: Where is the booty?

Believe it or not, there has been trouble on Tunis electric street cars because some riders thought Home Rule meant no more fares. Others were shocked to see the rent collector. Not a few citizens expected that taxes would be abolished. A little higher on the scale of sophistication, some are irate that, though France has been humbled, the French are still very much in Tunisia. Higher still, consternation is rife that Tunisians have not been admitted to the forest of government jobs presumably grown overnight by Liberation. At the top level, complaint rages against the slowness — some call it the absence — of government decisions.

Interlacing all this gamut of resentment is the know-not but widespread conviction that nothing has visibly changed despite victory.

Yes, there is a new blaze of white Crescent and Star centred in a crimson field on the flagmasts of government buildings. The exiles have returned. The jails have disgorged their political prisoners. The four French directors whose word was law in Public Works, Posts and Telegraphs, Education and Finance have gone away. There is a brand-new Ministry of Interior, operated by a man in a fez. Instead of Resident General, the energetic and casual young Roger Seydeux wears the more discreet title of Haut Commissaire.

But Seydeux is nevertheless the Bey's Minister of Defence and Minister of Foreign Affairs. Technically, he is even the ultimate boss of the Tunisian police. By treaty now, instead of by compulsion, Tunisia's economy is tightly linked with that of France—requiring all trade and financial contacts with the outer world to go through French channels. Why, say the malcontents, we are as enslaved as ever!

The one thing which has palpably and monumentally changed, even to the most myopic naked eye, is the Neo-Destour. The party which led the Liberation fight with impressive unity and sacrifice is now tragically split. One cannot yet measure the relative size of the pieces into which the Party—and the country—have broken. But the rupture is clearly dangerous, and could turn mortal.

(This is the first of a series of articles.)

Up-to-Date Electronic Computer in Rehovot

IN the basement hall of the main Weizmann Institute building at Rehovot, a remarkable robot is now being "shocked" into existence. When the last of the pieces of the jigsaw design fell into its preordained place just recently, one of the world's latest models of the High-Speed All-Digital Electronic Computer emerged from a jungle of tiny wires and vacuum tubes.

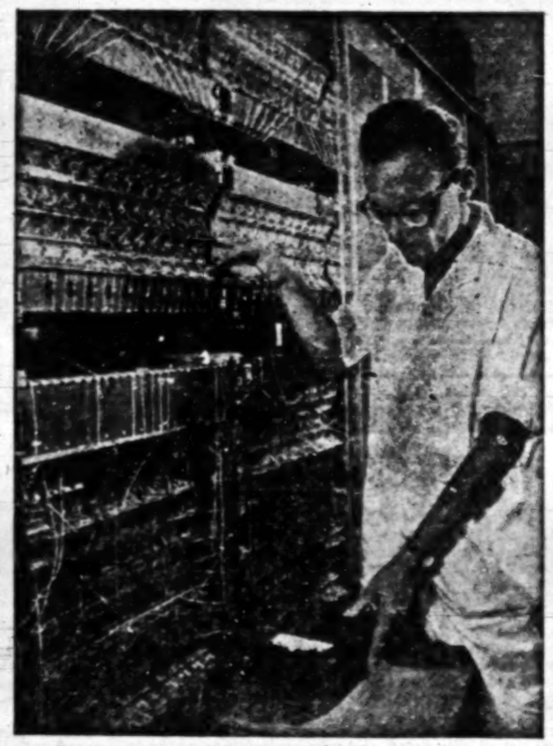
The main body of the instrument consists of large frames which contain row upon row of tiny vacuum tubes. Some 2,000 of these tubes are incorporated in the computer; they are interconnected by a maze of electrical wiring.

The operation of the instrument is purely electronic. No moving parts are used and the only changes which occur are those of electrical currents inside the tubes. The eye merely sees the twinkling and flickering of the many tubes as they go on and off during operation.

A striking feature is the fact that instead of the ordinary numerals 1, 2, 3, and so forth, the machine uses only two figures: 0 and 1. The instrument, as it were, counts only up to two! Any larger number is divided into groups of 2 (i.e., pairs) and the number of pairs is then counted. In mathematical language, this is expressed by saying that the machine works on the binary system of arithmetic, whereas in everyday life we use the decimal system.

As an example, the number 403682 is written 1100010100011100010 in binary notation.

The enormous advantage of using this system follows from the fact that the instrument has to learn the use of two figures only: 0 and 1. This means great economy and simplicity in design as compared with the older-type machines, which had to juggle ten different figures around. If it is desired that a tube represent "0", the only requirement is that it should transmit a certain current. To represent the numeral "1" it is made to pass a different current. Only an infinitesimal part of a second is necessary for these operations and therein lies the secret of the instrument's fabulous speed. No machine with mechanical moving parts can equal the speed of an electronic computer because simple mechanical inertia slows it down.



A DOZEN specially trained people were employed for neary two years in putting together the electronic computer at the Weizmann Institute, which answers questions in higher mathematics within millionths of a second.

The main part of the machine is called the "arithmetic unit." This is the largest and most important part which, at enormous speed, carries out the four basic arithmetical operations: addition, substraction, multiplication, and division. Though it is electronic in nature, this part is a close parallel to the desk calculating machine.

The arithmetic unit is "fed" constantly with numbers, which it has to digest by performing on them the various operations mentioned and storing them away. The part which feeds the arithmetic unit and receives the results is called the "memory" of the machine. The memory is analogous to the sheet of paper used by the human operator, on which results are recorded and then submitted to the computer for new computations.

The part of the machine which controls all these operations is called the "control unit." This part, which plays the role of the human brain, directs and keeps track of every operation which is executed. It emits an unceasing flow of electrical signals to the various parts of the machine, ordering them to carry out the operations necessary for a certain calculation.

At the beginning of the calculation, a human operator places in the control unit the series of orders which he wants executed. He may then leave the instrument alone to carry on with the computation, at the end of which the results are automatically printed on ordinary paper by the machine.

Many problems in higher mathematics require extremely long and involved calculations. These may take such a long time to carry out that it would be impracticable to execute them. Many such problems are encountered in physics, engineering, chemistry, and the like, and have often been left unsolved simply because of their tediousness.

These difficulties, however, do not exist for the electronic computer. It can perform 1,000 multiplications and 100,000 additions in one second! The machine, therefore, opens almost limitless possibilities to scientists with a problem to solve.

Yesterday's Press

ISRAEL PEACE PLAN

"DAVAR" (Histadrut) believes that the eight-point plan for a Middle East settlement submitted to Mr. Dulles fixes the limit of concessions Israel can agree to and emphasizes that there can be no "compromise" between the needs of peace and the needs of war. The only way to liquidate tension is to provide both sides with the real needs for peaceful life and progress, which can be achieved only through direct negotiations.

"Omer" (Histadrut) says that the plan proves that Israel desires peace and at the same time provides tests for the validity of the various peace rumours that have been at large for some time. The plan also proposes everything short of affecting Israel's sovereignty and territorial integrity. If the Arabs reject it out of hand, the world will be able to see who it is that harbours aggressive intentions.

Both "Al Hamishmar" (Mapam) and "Lamerhav" (Ahdut Ha'avoda) point out that the plan was not presented to the Government for approval and it is the fruit of the Foreign Ministry's initiative. Both papers, together with "Kol Ha'am" (Communist), which claims that the most important point—objection to the Baghdad pact — is missing, ask why the plan was handed to Dulles and not to the United Nations. "Al Hamishmar" goes on to say that the basic policy of the present Government has been violated in that the plan was not the joint decision of all parties concerned and warns that Mapam will not stand for such violation for long. "Lamerhav" also wants to know where the figure of 900,000 refugees comes from and how it is that the plan does not mention the payment of war damages by the Arabs as well as compensation for Jewish refugee property left behind in Arab countries.

Herut Opposition

"Herut" cries that we have been trapped. The coming period of haggling over Israel's "terms" will assure the Arabs of precious time for receiving all the arms and training needed for the showdown. The Israel public will not stand for it and will nip the Foreign Ministry's "peace campaign" in the bud.

"Haboker" (General Zionist) believes that the publication of the plan, though it is merely a recapitulation of things that have already been said, may have been intended to counter the British "peace offensive." But it would have been better if from time to time attention had been called to such Arab lapses as were disclosed in the captured Syrian documents that arbitrarily set up a new "International frontier." "Hamodia" (World Aguda) questions the political wisdom of publishing the plan at this juncture, saying that it will only invite pressure for more concessions, while "Hatzofe" (World Mizrahi) hopes that it will go far to illuminate Israel's position and help soften the effect of the Security Council's rebuff on the Kinneret incident.

Readers' Letters

VISITS TO U.K.

Editor, The Jerusalem Post

Sir, — Regarding the trips to the U.K. which we are organizing for British settlers in this country, reported briefly in your issue of December 9, the first one is planned for March 8 (not April), on the s.s. Jerusalem, at reduced rates. This will enable participants to spend Passover with their families in Britain.

Persons interested in the scheme are asked to contact the Israel Office of the British Zionist Federation, 53A Rehov Hayarkon, Tel Aviv.

Yours, etc.
SHLOMO TEMKIN
Director, Israel Office

Tel Aviv, December 12.

KEEPING POSTED

IT looks as though there might again be little Christmas spirit in Bethlehem this year. Instead of preparing to cross the lines to the Old City, some from Israel of the Christians, at least the foreign residents among them, are coming out of the Old City to wait this side of the barbed wire until the Jordan Government crisis has blown over. Boys on the streets of Arab cities need very little encouragement to throw stones at Westerners. They do not own the hotels or restaurants, and are not even inhibited by any thought of what they may be doing to the tourist trade that has so carefully been fostered by Jordan, even at the cost of maintaining something that is dangerously like coordination or even cooperation with the Israel authorities.

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BUT there have not been many Christmas Eves in recent years on which you could set out in comfort on the pilgrimage to Bethlehem, a city which is at least twice as romantic at night as by daylight, when poverty and open drains and dirt show more starkly. One year the war had broken out. One year the Patria had just been blown up in Haifa Port, and bodies were being brought up daily. One year the Italian prisoners came in from the desert; one year allied soldiers had retired from the desert. One year the Americans had come in.

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EARLY on in the war, the pilgrimage was quite the thing: rather like a first night at the opera. Perhaps not really an opera — there is something un-English about opera. More like a flower show. Go by car and take the children. And put in a hamper with sandwiches and a couple of thermos flasks, because the traffic gets all snarled up every year. With luck there was a good moon in a clear sky, shining brilliantly on the pale stone houses to create the illusion of a "white" Christmas even without snow. Car followed well-polished car, down the pretty winding road to Bethlehem, past Mar Elias monastery, gaunt and forbidding and without any suggestion of cosy Christmas cheer. Then past Rachel's Tomb, to be caught up immediately in the fairground atmosphere of the town where open stalls offered coloured drinks and chipped sweets to the Arab crowds that had come out to see English officialdom on holiday. Everyone was good humoured. At every crossing there was a British policeman with large moustaches to keep traffic in the main lanes and prevent visitors from losing their way. If you really wanted to get into Bethlehem itself and not drive directly to the Church of the Nativity, you would have quite a time persuading the traffic policeman that maybe you were on your way to visit an uncle in a back street.

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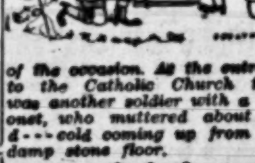
THE Church stands back in a little courtyard that marked the end of the town at that time. Its walls were reinforced with sandbags piled high and topped with barbed wire, and the barbed-wire knife-edge obstacles had been pulled aside for the day and neatly piled up in a corner. To one side of the yard is "the needle's eye" and built only about a metre high to force the proudest crusader to bow his head as he entered. The soldiers had been withdrawn from their positions and permitted to attend the service instead, and there were only two men guarding the entrance, one on either side of the doorway, their bayonets crossed above it. The effect was decorative and might almost have been posed by a photographer looking for the perfect wartime shot, but several American soldiers with flashlight bulbs were stopped from taking pictures owing to the sanctity of the occasion. At the entrance to the Catholic Church there was another soldier with a bayonet, who muttered about the d---cold coming up from that damp stone floor.



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ARAB choirs tend to sing Western music out of tune, and a full Christmas service is long for a visitor. Most of the English soon crept up, candle in hand, to the incredibly ancient little open terrace of roof, where chairs had been placed in rows for the carol service, to look at the sky and stars and the corner of the white bell-tower to wait for the traditional bells to ring out, and to let their minds wander to friends in England who were hearing the carols and bells on the BBC by special arrangement. No Mandate could make Palestine British, or either Jews or Arabs into colonial subjects. This roof, at this time, was the only thing in the country pervaded by an English flavour that could be witnessed and enjoyed by the peoples of the place, as they might have witnessed and enjoyed English customs in England, but were almost bound to look with critical eyes on anything else English here.

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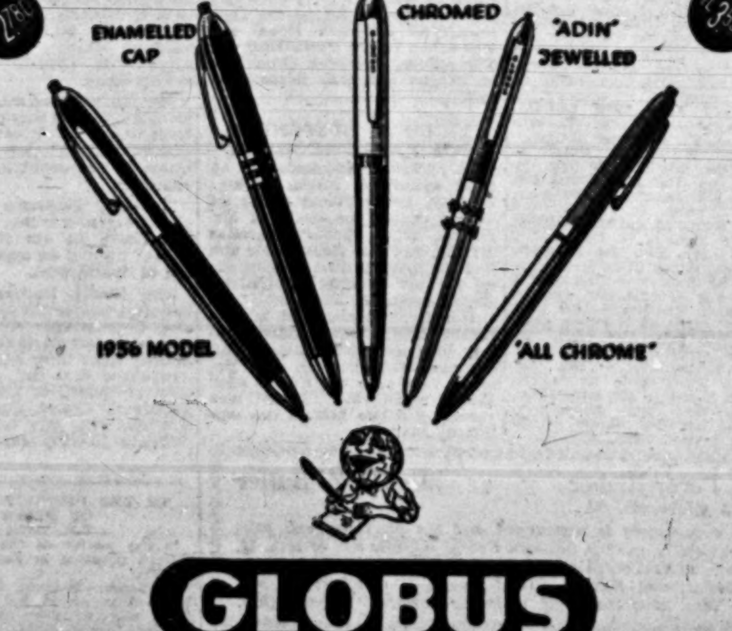

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